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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

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R 211325Z JAN 74

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2311

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 LOURENCO MARQUES 0044

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, MZ

SUBJECT: AFTERMATH OF ATTACK ON FARM NEAR MANICA

REF: LOURENCO MARQUES 037

1. SUMMARY: KILLING OF FARMER'S WIFE NEAR MANICA HAS HAD
CONSIDERABLE AFTER EFFECT, INCLUDING DEMONSTRATIONS BY
RESIDENTS OF VILA PEREIRA AND BEIRA. THE FIRST DEMANDED GREATER
PROTECTION. THE LATTER CHOSE THE OCCASION TO PROTEST INDOLENCE
AND LUXURIOUS LIVING OF PORTUGUESE OFFICERS WHILE SUCH
VIOLENCE GOES ON SO CLOSE TO THE CITY. CHIEF OF STAFF GENERAL
COSTA GOMES HAS ARRIVED FROM LISBON TO LOOK INTO THE SITUATION.
END EUNMKRS.

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WM COMMUNIQUE NO. 4/74 PUBLISHED ON JANUARY 19 BY HIGH
COMMAND OF MOZAMBIQUE ARMED FORCES REFERS TO ATTACK NEAR VILA

DE MANICA REPORTE IN COMMUNIQUE NO. 3/74 AND STATES THAT AS RESULT OF ACTIONS UNDERTAKEN IN THAT AREA, SEVEN PERSONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN PRISONER, FOUR OF WHOM WERE IMPLICATED IN THE ABOVE ASSASSINATION.

3. MORE DETAILED REPORTS CARRIED IN PRESS INDICATE THAT BAND OF ABOUT 12 TERRORISTS, MOSTLY TEENAGED YOUTHS LED BY 30 YEAR OLD, WITHOUT ADVANCE WARNING BURST INTO FARMHOUSE 9 KILOMETERS FROM VILA MANICA AND 15 KILOMETERS FROM UMTALI (RHODESIA) AT 2030 ON JANUARY 14 WHILE FAMILY WAS DINING, RANSACKED THE HOUSE, BAYONETTED PORTUGUESE FARMER'S WIFE, MARIA JOSE DIAS, TO DEATH AND WOUNDED HER SON JOAQUIM (18). AN OLDER SON HID UNDER BED AND ESCAPED UNHARMED. HUSBAND EVADED TERRORISTS AND RAN SEVERAL KILOMETERS TO THE NEAREST POLICE POST FOR HELP. THERE ARE UNCONFIRMED REPORTS THAT POSSIBLY SAME GANG RAIDED AND ROBBED SECOND FARMHOUSE NEARBY BUT NO ONE WAS HOME AND THUS NO ONE HARMED. SOME CONJECTURE THAT GANG MAY HAVE BEEN RHODESIAN GUERRILLAS SINCE ATTACKS SUCH AS THESE FIT MORE INTO RHODESIAN INSURGENCY PATTERN THAN PAST FRELIMO MODE OF CONDUCT. HOWEVER, MOST REPORTS TAKE FOR GRANTED ACTION COMMITTED BY FRELIMO ELEMENTS.

4. WHATEVER THE EXPLANATION, MANICA INCIDENT HAS HAD WIDE REPERCUSSIONS BOTH IN VILA PEREIRA AREA AND BEIRA. IN VILA PEREIRA STORES WERE SHUT AND LARGE PART OF POPULATION PARTICIPATED IN FUNERAL CORTEGE ON JANUARY 16. SECRETARY GENERAL TEIXEIRA FERREIRA, TOGETHER WITH PROVINCIAL SECRETARY FOR AGRICULTURE SANTARENO, AND PROVINCIAL SECRETARY FOR COMMUNICATIONS VILAR QUEIROZ, WERE ON HAND AND CONSULTED WITH FARM OWNERS FROM THE CHIMOIO PLATEAU SURROUNDING VILA PEREIRA. LATTER ARE THOROUGHLY AROUSED BY THE TWO RECENT MINE EXPLOSIONS ON THE BEIRA-RHODESIA RAILROAD LINE AND THE MANICA INCIDENT WHICH ARE THE VIOLENT CULMINATION OF INDICATIONS THAT FRELIMO GUERRILLAS HAVE BEEN IN THIS AREA FOR SOME WEEKS TALKING TO PEOPLE, APPLYING PRESSURES ON STORE KEEPERS, SIGNALLING FROM HILLTOPS, ETC. THE FARMERS TOLD SECGEN THAT IF CERTAIN DEMANDS WERE NOT MET THEY WOULD PACK UP AND LEAVE. REPORTEDLY, DEMANDS ARE: A) THAT ADDITIONAL DGS FORCES (FLECHAS) BE SENT INTO THE AREA; B) THAT AT LEAST FOUR ARMED RURAL GUARDS BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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ASSIGNED TO EACH FARM; C) THAT ARMS AND AMMUNITIONS BE PROVIDED ALL FARMERS; D) THAT RADIO TRANSMITTER/RECEIVER BE PLACED ON EACH FARM. NOTICIAS OF JANUARY 19 CARRIED STATEMENT BY SECGEN ON HIS RETURN TO LOURENCO MARQUES THAT SOME MEASURES HAVE ALREADY BEEN PUT INTO FORCE "EXCEEDING WHAT THE PEOPLE HAVE DEMANDED". ARTICLE STATED DECISION HAD BEEN TAKEN TO DISTRIBUTE 200 RADIO TRANSMITTER/RECEIVERS TO THE MOST DISTANT FARMS. VILA PEREIRA STORES REOPENED ON FRIDAY AND LIFE RETURNED TO NORMAL.

5. IN BEIRA, HOWEVER, SOMEWHAT MORE SERIOUS DEMONSTRATIONS TOOK PLACE ON THURSDAY. THERE WAS COMPLETE SHUTDOWN OF ALL STORES AND BUSINESS ENTERPRISES. A FEW, INCLUDING BANCO NACIONAL ULTIMARINA AND A RESTAURANT WHICH DID NOT CLOSE HAD WINDOWS BROKEN BY DEMONSTRATORS. WHILE FUNERAL OF MRS. DIAS WAS OSTENSIBLE REASON FOR DEMONSTRATION, IT IS BELIEVED THAT DEMONSTRATORS CHOSE THE OCCASION TO INDICATE THEIR GENERAL DISSATISFACTION WITH THE MILITARY AND ECONOMIC SITUATION. ACCORDING TO ONE REPORT, DEMONSTRATORS WERE PRE-DOMINANTLY WHITE, ALTHOUGH NEWSPAPERS DESCRIBED EVENT AS A BLACK AND WHITE AFFAIR. DEMONSTRATORS GATHERED IN FRONT OF GOVERNMENT HOUSE WHERE THEY WERE ADDRESSED BY GOVERNOR SOUSA TELLES. THEY ALSO DEMONSTRATED AT PORTUGUESE OFFICERS'S QUARTERS PROTESTING INDOLENT AND LUXURIOUS LIFE LED BY OFFICERS WHILE INCIDENTS OCCUR SO CLOSE TO BEIRA. IN ENSUING MELEE, REPORTEDLY SHOTS WERE FIRED BY MILITARY POLICE AND ACCORDING TO NOTICIAS OF JANUARY 19, ONE MILITARY AND EIGHT CIVILIANS WERE SLIGHTLY INJURED (NOT BY GUN FIRE), AND RELEASED FROM HOSPITAL AFTER TREATMENT.

6. CHIEF OF STAFF OF PORTUGUESE ARMED FORCES GENERAL COSTA GOMES ARRIVED IN BEIRA ON JANUARY 19 TO CONSULT WITH MILITARY AUTHORITIES AND TAKE A LOOK AT THE SITUATION. HE HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN TALKING WITH INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS AND IS GATHERING LIST OF PETITIONS, SUGGESTIONS, COMPLAINTS, ETC. TO TAKE BACK TO LISBON WITH HIM.

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

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R 211325Z JAN 74

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WAYHDC 2312

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA
AMEMBASSY LUSAKAN
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 LOURENCO MARQUES 0044

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

7. COMMENT: WHILE MANICA INCIDENT PROVIDED SPARK FOR ABOVE DEMONSTRATIONS, THEY REPRESENT MORE GENERAL DISSATISFACTION WHICH HAS BEEN MOUNTING FOR SOME TIME IN BOTH VILA PERY AREA AND BEIRA. LATTER, FOR EXAMPLE, IS ALWAYS MORE TENSE THAN LOURENCO MARQUES, BEING CLOSER TO WAR ZONES, BEARING BRUNT OF ECONOMIC DISLOCATIONS CAUSED BY SANCTIONS AGAINST RHODESIA, AND HAVING A MORE VOLATILE POPULACE.

IT HAS IN PAST BEEN

SCENE OF VIOLENT DEMONSTRATIONS OVER MATTERS RANGING FROM INCREASE IN PRICE OF CINEMA TICKETS, TO INTER-TRIBAL STRIFE AMONG ITINERANT URBANIZED AFRICAN WORKERS, AND PROTESTS AGAINST ALLEGED DISRESPECT FOR PORTUGUESE FLAG AND OTHER ACTIONS BY MACUTI PRIESTS. IT HAS REPUTATION FOR BEING CENTER OF OPPOSITION TO PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT, AND IN ELECTIONS OF 1969, WAS ONLY CITY IN MOZAMBIQUE TO SUPPORT OPPOSITIONIST SLATE.

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IM FARMERS IN VILA PERY AND SURROUNDING CHIMBIO PLATEAU, WHO OWN AND ARE DEEPLY ATTACHED TO THEIR FARMS, HAVE BEEN APPREHENSIVE FOR AT LEAST PAST YEAR OVER FRELIMO ADVANCES TOWARDS THE SOUTH. LAST FEBRUARY IN EFFECT TO ALLAY THEIR WORRIES, GEN. KAULZA DE ARRIAGA INVITED A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE AREA TO ACCOMPANY CONSULAR CORPS ON A BRIEFING VISIT TO NAMPULA. GEN. DE ARRCAGA ALSO MADE SEVERAL VISITS TO VILA PERY PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE TO DISCUSS DEFENSE PROBLEMS WITH FARMERS. PRESENT COMMAND IN CHIEF GEN. BASTO MACHADO HAS ALSO VISITED AREA SEVERAL TIMES TO BOLSTER MORALE. RESIDENTS HAVE FORMED HOME GUARD WHICH CARRIES OUT PERIODIC PATROLS. MANY INHABITANTS OF VILA PERY AREA (AND BEIRA) HAVE STARTED TO CARRY ARMS. NOW THAT THEIR FEARS ARE BASED ON REALITY AND ARE NO LONGER MERELY ANTICIPATORY, FARMERS ARE NOT, AS SOME HAVE SUGGESTED, PANICKING, BUT THEY ARE DISURBED AND INSISTING THAT ATTENTION NOW BE PAID TO DEMANDS FOR GREATER PROTECTION THEY HAVE BEEN MAKING FOR SOME TIME.

VAN OSS

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